

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 184122

41

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 EUR-25 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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TO ALL EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184122

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, PINT, PFOR

SUBJECT: CHILEAN DEVELOPMENTS AS OF SEPT. 14

FYI FOR AMBASSADOR

1. SUMMARY. MILITARY CONTINUES MEET SOME RESISTANCE, BUT
ATMOSPHERE APPEARS TO BE NORMALIZING AT FASTER PACE.
ARMY'S GENERAL PINOCHET BECAME NEW PRESIDENT AND LARGELY
MILITARY CABINET NOW SWORN IN. DESPITE MILITARY RETI-
CENCE ON FUTURE ELECTIONS, MAJOR NON-MARXIST PARTIES HAVE
EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT TO JUNTA. JUNTA'S ALTERCATION
WITH CUBA WILL GO TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL. INTERNATIONAL-
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PAGE 02 STATE 184122

LY, COUP HAS BEEN WIDELY CONDEMNED, BUT THREE LATIN

GOVERNMENTS HAVE ANNOUNCED CONTINUANCE OF RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. FOURTH DAY OF MILITARY CONTROL WITNESSED VISIBLY MORE RELAXED ATMOSPHERE IN SANTIAGO. MANY VENTURED INTO STREETS DURING DAYLIGHT BREAK IN CURFEW, INCLUDING SOME "SIGHTSEERS" AMONG PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND FACTORIES WHICH BORE BRUNT OF PREVIOUS DAYS' FIGHTING. PASSENGER TRAINS REPORTED NOW REACHING SANTIAGO, HIGHWAY TO VALPARAISO OPEN AND BANKS SET TO REOPEN AFTER WEEKEND. INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES ARE BECOMING AVAILABLE

TO DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND ACCREDITED NEWSMEN, ALTHOUGH NEWS DESPATCHES ARE BEING MONITORED. INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS NOT EXPECTED TO RESUME UNTIL NEXT WEEK, AND BORDERS REMAIN CLOSED.

3. NOTWITHSTANDING PROGRESSIVE SIGNS OF NORMALIZATION, EMBASSY SANTIAGO CONTINUES TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF MILITARY ACTIONS (INCLUDING AIR ASSAULTS) AGAINST INTRANSIGENTS IN LOW-INCOME HOUSING AREAS. SPORADIC FIRING WAS STILL AUDIBLE IN DOWNTOWN AREA.

4. EL MERCURIO, ONE OF TWO ANTI-MARXIST PAPERS PERMITTED TO PUBLISH, CARRIED FIRST OFFICIAL CASUALTY LIST--16. ESTIMATES VARY WIDELY, BUT ALL CONCEDE THEY HAVE BEEN HEAVY, AS "PACIFICATION" PROCEEDS.

5. GENERAL AUGUSTO PINOCHET, ARMY REPRESENTATIVE ON FOUR-SERVICE JUNTA, WAS SWORN IN AS JUNTA PRESIDENT SEPT. 12 ALONG WITH NEW, OVERWHELMINGLY MILITARY, CABINET.

6. MAJOR NON-MARXIST PARTIES HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS SUPPORTING JUNTA. PREDICTABLY, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS' ENDORSEMENT PROVED MORE CAUTIOUS THAN THAT OF CONSERVATIVE NATIONAL PARTY.

7. CARDINAL SILVA HAS ISSUED CALL TO RESPECT FALLEN, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 184122

ESPECIALLY ALLENDE, AND FOR MODERATION BY VICTORS. HE HOPED FOR COOPERATION OF ALL TO RESTORE ECONOMIC LIFE AND CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER. JUNTA HAS OFFERED NO TIMETABLE FOR ITS MANDATE. NEW FONMIN, ADM. ISMAEL HUERTA, HAS SIMPLY OBSERVED THAT MILITARY INTERVENTION WOULD LAST AS LONG AS NECESSARY.

8. JUNTA HAS GIVEN PRIORITY TO REGULARIZING DISTRIBUTION

OF PROGRESSIVELY MORE SCANTY FOOD SUPPLIES. AS CONTEMPLATED, NEW SYSTEM WOULD EMPHASIZE RETAIL RATHER THAN THE QUASI-POLITICAL OUTLETS ESTABLISHED UNDER ALLENDE. THIS WAS A MAJOR MIDDLE CLASS AND PRIVATE SECTOR GRIEVANCE AGAINST ALLENDE GOVERNMENT.

9. INTERNATIONALLY, JUNTA FORMALLY BROKE RELATIONS WITH CUBA. UN SECURITY COUNCIL IS SET SEPT. 17 TO HEAR CUBAN COMPLAINTS OF CHILEAN ATTACKS AGAINST ITS EMBASSY AND ONE OF ITS FREIGHTERS. ADDITIONALLY, THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT JUNTA IS FOR TIME BEING CONFINING AT LEAST SOME COMMUNIST MISSIONS TO THEIR RESPECTIVE CHANCERIES. BE

THAT AS IT MAY, NEW REGIME IS REPORTEDLY CONCERNED OVER ADVERSE REACTION TO COUP IN MANY COUNTRIES. SO FAR THREE NATIONS--BRAZIL, GUATEMALA AND URUGUAY--HAVE RECOGNIZED. BRAZIL IS ALSO SENDING MEDICAL SUPPLIES. RUSH

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